

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (canceled)
2. (canceled)
3. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 29 ~~claim 1~~ in which the flexible sheet is secured in part to the housing and in which the flexible sheet and fire suppression agent are disposed within the cavity such that upon opening the cover, at least a part of the flexible sheet falls outside the cavity.
4. (canceled)
5. (canceled)
6. (canceled)
7. (canceled)
8. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 29 ~~claim 1~~ in which the flexible sheet is configured such that a portion of the flexible sheet and the fire suppression agent move from the housing primarily by the force of gravity upon opening the cover.
9. (canceled)
10. (canceled)
11. (canceled)
12. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 29 ~~claim 1~~ in which the flexible sheet includes depressions for holding fire suppression material.

13. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 29 ~~claim 1~~ further comprising a thermally activated trigger for moving the latch to the second position upon detecting a fire.

14. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 13 in which the thermally activated trigger includes a bimetallic disk or a material with a low melting point that yields to an unlatching force as its temperature increases.

15. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 29 ~~claim 1~~ further comprising a switch for signaling a device to remove an energy source from a stove.

16. (currently amended) A method of dispersing a fire suppression agent to extinguish a fire, comprising:

providing a housing including therein a dry fire suppression agent between overlapping folded layers of a flexible sheet, said layers formed by folding the flexible sheet into an accordion-like shape having a plurality of pleats which are alternately folded back and forth, and said fire suppression agent disposed between the overlapping layers formed by the alternately folded plurality of pleats so that the folded flexible sheet separates the fire suppression agent into a plurality of discrete portions;

unlatching a latch to open the housing and release the dry fire suppression agent, at least a part of the flexible sheet moving out of housing, the flexible sheet dispersing the fire suppression agent alternatively in different lateral directions as the flexible sheet unfolds.

17. (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 16 in which dispersing the fire suppression agent includes distributing the plurality of discrete portions of fire suppression agent as alternating pulses of fire suppression agents.

19. (currently amended) The method of claim 18 in which the fire suppression agent distributes the alternating pulses of fire suppression agents agent in more than one different direction ~~two alternating opposite directions.~~

20. (currently amended) A method of making a fire suppression module, comprising:

providing a housing, a flexible sheet, and a fire suppression agent;

folding the flexible sheet into an accordion-like shape having a plurality of pleats which are alternately folded back and forth to form a plurality of overlapping layers with the fire suppression agent placed between the overlapping layers of folds so that the folded flexible sheet separates the fire suppression agent into a plurality of discrete portions;

placing the layered flexible sheet and fire suppression agent within the housing; and

providing a latch to open the housing and release the flexible sheet and the fire suppression agent.

21. (original) The method of claim 20 further comprising securing a part of the flexible sheet to the housing.

22. (canceled)

23. (cancelled)

24. (original) The method of claim 20 in which providing a latch included providing a thermally activated trigger to open the latch.

25. (original) The method of claim 24 in which providing a thermally sensitive trigger includes providing a thermally sensitive trigger that includes a bimetallic disk or a low melting temperature material that yields to an unlatching force as its temperature increases.

26. (original) The method of claim 20 further comprising providing a switch that signals device to remove an energy source from a stove.

27. (currently amended) An apparatus for dispersing a fire suppression agent over a stove, comprising:

a housing defining a cavity, the cavity having an opening;

a cover for covering the opening;

a latch having a first position for maintaining the cover in a closed position about the opening, and a second position for allowing the cover to uncover the opening; and

a flexible sheet for being rolled up within the cavity with the cover in the closed position, and configured to disperse the fire suppression agent upon the uncovering of the opening with the opening downwardly oriented, wherein the flexible sheet when unrolled includes at least one pocket for containing the fire suppression agent.

28. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 27 wherein the at least one pocket includes a tube with an opening at one end of the flexible sheet for releasing the fire suppression agent from the opening of the tube as the end of the flexible sheet is unrolled.

29. (new) An apparatus for dispersing a fire suppression agent, comprising:

a housing defining a cavity, the cavity having an opening;

a cover for sealing the opening;

a flexible sheet disposed with the cavity, wherein the flexible sheet is folded into an accordion-like shape having a plurality of pleats which are alternately folded back and forth to form a plurality of overlapping layers;

a fire suppression agent disposed between the overlapping layers formed by the alternately folded plurality of pleats so that the folded flexible sheet separates the fire suppression agent into a plurality of discrete portions; and

a latch having a first position for maintaining the cover in a position to close the opening and a second position for opening the cover to allow the flexible sheet to unfold;

wherein the flexible sheet is configured to drop and disperse the fire suppression agent as the flexible sheet unfolds upon opening of the cover with the opening downwardly oriented, the unfolding action of the flexible sheet serving to distribute the discrete portions of dropped fire suppression agent alternately in a first lateral direction and in the opposite lateral direction.